

of filing of the previously filed Information Disclosure Statement on June 16, 2000.

It is Applicant's opinion that the claims presently before the Examiner patentably distinguish the present invention from each of these references whether taken alone or in combination. The above references are being cited only in the interest of candor and without any admission that they constitute statutory prior art or contain matter which anticipates the invention or which would render the same obvious, either singly or in combination, to a person of ordinary skill in the art.

Applicant respectfully solicits the Examiner's consideration of the cited reference and entry thereof into the record of this application.

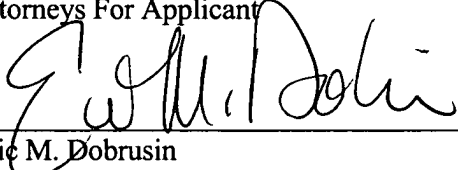
#### CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the claims are in form for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the earliest possible time. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the present application, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (248) 593-9900.

If for some reason Applicants have not requested a sufficient extension and/or have not paid a sufficient fee for this response and/or for the extension necessary to prevent the abandonment of this application, please consider this as a request for an extension for the required time period and/or authorization to charge our Deposit Account No. 50-1097 for any fee which may be due.

Respectfully submitted,  
DOBRUSIN DARDEN THENNISCH & LORENZ PLLC  
Attorneys For Applicant

Date: Sept. 18, 2000

  
Eric M. Dobrusin  
Reg. No. 33,867  
401 S. Old Woodward Avenue, Suite 311  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
Tele: (248) 593-9900

Customer No. 25215